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Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 116927 TOSEC 010054

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INFO OCT-01 SS-07 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 NSC-05 ISO-00 /016 R

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 116927 TOSEC 010054

LIMDIS

FOR SONNENFELDT AND HARTMAN

REF: STATE 115918

FOL TEL REPEAT ATHENS 3692 SENT ACTION SECSTATE
INFO ANKARA NATO MAY 19

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 3692

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OCON NATO GR
SUBJ: NATO SUMMIT MEETING: BILATERALS WITH THE PRESIDENT

REF STATE 115918

1. I HAVE SPOKEN TO AMBASSADOR MOLYVIATIS, PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS' CHEF DU CABINET, AND CONVEYED THE MESSAGE CONTAINED PARA 2 REFTEL. MOLYVIATIS SUBSEQUENTLY SPOKE TO CARAMANLIS CONFIDENTIAL

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AND HAS SINCE CALLED ME BACK TO SAY THAT CARAMANLIS AGREES AND LOOKS FORWARD WITH PLEASURE TO MEETING WITH PRESIDENT FORD ON THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 29, FROM 0930 TO 1045 IN THE RESIDENCE OF AMBASSADOR FIRESTONE. MOLYVIATIS SAID THAT

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CARAMANLIS EXPRESSED THE WISH THAT, IF AGREEABLE TO PRESIDENT FORD, SECRETARY KISSINGER AND FOREIGN MINISTER BITSIOS ALSO BE PRESENT. IN ADDITION, CARAMANLIS PLANS TO HAVE MOLYVIATIS PRESENT TO SERVE BOTH AS INTERPRETOR AS REQUIRED AND AS NOTETAKER. MOLYVIATIS SAID CARAMANLIS ASSUMED THAT ANOTHER US OFFICIAL WOULD ALSO BE PRESENT AND INDICATED AN INTEREST IN KNOWING WHO THIS WOULD BE.

2. IN MY FIRST CONVERSATION WITH MOLYVIATIS HE TOLD ME THAT CARAMANLIS WANTED IF POSSIBLE TO SEE PRESIDENT FORD BEFORE THE PRESIDENT SAW PRIME MINISTER DEMIREL, THAT CARAMANLIS THOUGHT SUCH A SEQUENCE WOULD BE MOST USEFUL FOR ALL CONCERENED. I TOOK THE LIBERTY OF TELLING MOLYVIATIS, AS I ENDEAVORED TO GAIN THEIR AGREEMENT TO THE 0930-1045 TIME FRAME, THAT I UNDER-STOOD THE PRESIDENT WOULD NOT BE SEEING DEMIREL UNTIL LATER THAT DAY. IN RESPONSE TO MOLYVIATIS' QUESTION, I ALSO SAID THAT I DID NOT BELIEVE DEMIREL WOULD BE ARRIVING TO SEE THE PRESIDENT AS CARAMANLIS WAS DEPARTING. (BY IMPLICATION, CARAMANLIS WANTS TO AVOID ANY APPEARANCE OF A THREE-WAY MEETING.)

3. COMMENT: IN MY OWN MEETINGS WITH CARAMANLIS, I HAVE FOUND THAT IF I LOOK DIRECTLY AT HIM AND SPEAK A LITTLE LOUDER THAN USUAL, HE IS ABLE TO UNDERSTAND ALMOST EVERYTHING I SAY IN ENGLISH. (HE IS A LITTLE HARD OF HEARING.) CARAMANLIS WILL HIMSELF OFTEN SPEAK IN ENGLISH, WHICH HE SPEAKS WITH FAIR FACILITY, ALTHOUGH HE WILL PROBABLY RESPOND MOSTLY IN GREEK AND USE THE SERVICES OF AN INTERPRETOR IN HIS MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT, IN ORDER TO CONCENTRATE ON THE SUBSTANCE OF THE DISCUSSION RATHER THAN SPEND TIME GROPING FOR ENGLISH WORDS THAT DO NOT READILY TO MIND. KUBISCH

UNQTE
INGERSOLL

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